

PATENT #4/a  
0508-1004

IN THE U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: Gerard GIORDANO et al.

Appl. No.: NEW Group:

Filed: March 15, 2002 Examiner:

For: NUCLEOTIDE SEQUENCES DERIVED FROM GENES  
CODING FOR TRIMETHYLAMINE N-OXIDE  
REDUCTASE, AND USES THEREOF, ESPECIALLY  
FOR THE DETECTION OF BACTERIA

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

March 15, 2002

Sir:

The following preliminary amendments and remarks are respectfully submitted in connection with the above-identified application.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

3. (amended) Use according to Claim 1, characterized in that the nucleotide sequences coding for a protein of the TMAO reductase system are chosen from those of the following bacteria: